

Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-12

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-----063906 030029Z /64
O 022341Z AUG 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY ANKARA IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MASS, TU

SUBJECT: TURKISH FMS DELIVERIES

1. UNDER TERMS OF FOREIGN MILITARY SALES (FMS) CREDIT AGREEMENT 100 PERCENT OF CARGO MUST MOVE ON U.S.-FLAG VESSELS. AGREEMENT ALSO PROVIDES THAT WAIVERS MAY BE GRANTED TO AUTHORIZE TURKISH-FLAG VESSELS TO PARTICIPATE IN PROGRAM UP TO 50 PERCENT OF OCEAN FREIGHT REVENUE. A WAIVER HAS BEEN GRANTED UNDER TERMS OF AGREEMENT.

2. SINCE INCEPTION OF THE MONITORING OF THE TURKISH FMS
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PROGRAM BY THE MARITIME ADMINISTRATION (MARAD) U.S.-FLAG VESSELS HAVE NOT CARRIED A 50 PERCENT SHARE. CURRENT STATISTICS INDICATE TURKISH-FLAG VESSELS HAVE RECEIVED DOLS. 1,147,678 FREIGHT REVENUE WHILE U.S.-FLAG VESSELS HAVE ONLY RECEIVED DOLS. 747,880 FREIGHT REVENUE. SHIPPING ARRANGEMENTS ARE PENDING FOR APPROXIMATELY 1000 TONS OF CARGO CONSISTING PRIMARILY OF CLASS A EXPLOSIVES.

THE FREIGHT REVENUE FOR THIS CARGO WILL EXCEED DOLS. 500,000. IF THIS CARGO MOVES ON TURKISH-FLAG VESSELS THE U.S.-FLAG DEFICIT WILL BE DOLS. 899,798 WHICH COULD NOT POSSIBLY BE MADE UP WITH OTHER BOOKINGS OF FMS CARGO TO TURKEY THIS YEAR.

3. MARAD HAS HAD SEVERAL DISCUSSIONS WITH TURKISH EMBASSY MILITARY ATTACHE CONCERNING THE NEED TO COMPLY WITH THE TERMS OF THE FMS AGREEMENT BY ASSURING U.S.-FLAG CARRIERS 50 PERCENT OF THE TOTAL CARGO. GENERAL AYDOGAN, DEFENSE AND AIR ATTACHE ADVISED MARAD THAT PERMISSION TO USE U.S.-FLAG VESSELS MUST COME FROM ANKARA BECAUSE HIS INSTRUCTIONS ARE TO BOOK ALL MUNITIONS CARGOES ON TURKISH-FLAG VESSELS ONLY.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: EMBASSY REQUESTED TO IMMEDIATELY REMIND PROPER GOT AUTHORITY OF FMS CREDIT AGREEMENT PROVISION FOR MINIMUM 50 PERCENT U.S.-FLAG CARRIER SHARE. INFORM GOT OF IMMEDIATELY PENDING AMMUNITION SHIPMENT, OF RESPECTIVE U.S. AND TURKISH CARRIER SHARES, AND OF OUR CONCERN THAT U.S. CARRIERS RECEIVE THEIR 50 PERCENT SHARE. REQUEST GOT TO TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION. VANCE

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